WASHINGTON.

AN ALL-NIGHT SESSION ON SILVER. THE SENATE STRIKES OUT THE FREE COINAGE CLAUSE AND VOTES FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE-NO FINAL VOTE BY 1:30 A. M .-GENERAL CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

The Senate took up the Silver Bill, yesterday, and remained in session until after 1:30 o'clock at night, voting on the various propositions in regard to remonetization. The committee's amendment to strike out the free coinage clause, and substitute a clause for the coinage of from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 a was carried by a vote of 49 to 22. The monetary conference was carried by 40 to 30. A large number of amendments was voted on, but no other important ones adopted by 1:30 a. m. At that hour the Senate was still at work, intending to reach a final vote. Bayard Taylor is nominated as Minister to Germany, and Judge Blatchford to be Circuit Judge. J. Q. Smith will probably be confirmed.

THE SENATE VOTING ON SILVER. FRESH AMENDMENTS PROPOSED AS OLD ONES ARE REJECTED-A VAST AMOUNT OF SPEAKING AND OTHER WORK-NO FINAL RESULT AT 1:30 A. M.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—It seems almost impos sible for the Senate of the United States to vote on any important measures at reasonable hours. It makes no difference how long a bill or resolution has been discussed, or how familiar Senators may be with all its provisions, the only way in which the wise men of that body can ever be made to stop talking about it and go to voting is for the majority to fix in advance a day on which they will vote, and then to remain in continuous session until everybody is so worn out that talking ceases from sheer exhaustion of Senators.

This explains why the Senate is now spending the night at the Capitol, and may possibly be found there when the sun rises to-morrow morning. It is not because any Senator has not made up his mind how he will vote on the Bland Silver Bill, or on any amendment that is now pending, or may be offered, that they do not pass the bill and go home. Neither side hopes to gain a single vote by delay. It is not filibustering or sharp Parliamentary tactics that the more dignified branch of Congress is engaged in to-night. The Senate remains in continuous session simply because its members cannot forego the pleasure of hearing their own voices, and will not forego it until sleep and fatigue and the indigestion incident to calls at Capitol restaurants overcome them.

Nor is it any easier to dam up the flood of speeches now than it would have been a month ago, if a mafority of the Senate had then been willing to agree to vote during any particular day's sitting. On the centrary, it has been noticed that the longer a debate has run the harder it is to stop it. It seems to gain a sort of momentum by long continuance, like a railwey train on a down grade, and requires a more vigorous application of the brakes and a longer

The debate in the Senate to-day was marked by very few important incidents. One of the most dramatic features of it was the impressive little speech made by Senator Lamar, apropos of the resolution of the Legislature of Mississippi, instructing the Senators from that State to vote for the Bland bill. Such instructions as these mean more to a life-long men, for it is almost one of the articles of their political creed that the State has a right to give in structions to its Senators, and it is the duty of Senators to obey. Some even go so far as to hold that one of two courses must be selected-obedience or It was no small thing, therefore, for Senator

Lamar to say to the Senate, to his constituents and the country that he believed it to be his conscientions duty to disregard the instructions of the Legislature of his State, and to vote directly contrary to its instructions, and he showed both by his tone and manner that he felt deeply the importance its possible consequences in shaping his political Senator Lamar had the sympathy of a ma-

jority of the Senate, without regard to the opinions held upon the pending measure. Not many men went over to his seat and congratulated him on the manly stand he had taken, but a few did, and among them was Mr. Edmunds, a man who of all others in the Senate is not given to gush. But many Senators showed by their countenances, and by little involuntary gestures, that they sympathized with him and admired his pluck. Senator Blame was one of these. Senator Conkling, who was engaged in reading or writing at the time, hardly

raised his eyes from his paper.

The other closing speeches of the general debate were not striking either for their ability or because they contributed any new information; and the Sen ate passed almost insensibly from the written addresses to which it has so long been listening through the medium of several short explanatory speeches to direct work upon the bill and amendments. One or two of the amendments which had ments. One or two of the amendments which had been offered were withdrawn late in the afternoon, and for a few minutes it looked as though there was to be little delay. Those who were deceived by these appearances and postponed getting their dinners had occasion to regret it afterwards. For, as events subsequently showed, the Senate was not in a spasm of sense, nor had it any very alarming symptoms of such a disease.

FREE COINAGE REJECTED. By 7 o'clock this evening two or three unimportant verbal amendments to the bill, as reported by the Finance Committee, had been agreed to, and the first vote on the committee's modifications of the Bland bill was reached. These modifications represent the opinions of that class of silver advocates who are able to understand the fact that unlimited silver with free coinage means a depreciated currency and great financial disaster. The committee's bill proposed to make the amount of silver to be coined not less than two nor more than four million dollars a month, and to have this done wholly for Government account. The vote on this stood 49 in the affirmative to 22 in the negative.

The twenty-two Senators who voted in the negative are the men who held the extreme ground on the silver question, and who are nuwilling to accept any precautions. They wanted the Bland bill and

any precautions. They wanted the Bland bill and nothing more conservative.

The silver men who voted in the affirmative are those who see the danger of the silver craze, and some of them, if it were not for the overwhelming public sentiment in favor of silver that seems to exist in their States, would probably be on the other side. As it is, they make a compromise between their convictions and what they think is good personal policy, and vote for silver with a limitation which they hope will prevent it from doing much damage.

mage.

A MONETARY CONFERENCE AGREED TO.

Ager this, the flood-gates were opened, and all at-tempts to close them have, up to midnight, failed. The only thing accomplished in all this time was the adoption by a vote of 40 to 30 of the committee's second amendment providing for a conference with the Latin Union States to fix a common ratio between the values of gold and silver. Some of the arguments made against this amendment by Southern Senators were very funny. They held that such a provision would be unconstitutional because it would be an entangling alliance with foreign

A TIRED BUT TALKATIVE SENATE. 1 a. m.—After this Senator McDonald moved to amend the first section of the bill, by substituting the word "stipulated" for the word "provided," in sentence declaring that silver coin shall be a lecal-tender for all debts and dues, "except when lerwise provided by contract." Upon this the ebate started afresh on the old question, whether

it is honest or not to pay the United States bonds in silver. Of course nothing new was said, but that made no difference. The Senators who participated in the discussion did so with just as much zest as though no word had ever been said on the subject.

An amendment, proposed by Mr. Morrill, providing that all contracts uncompleted at the time of the passage of the Silver Bill and requiring money payments, shall be paid on the basis of the value represented by United States notes at the time such contracts were made, has just been defeated by a vote of 20 in affirmative to 44 in the negative.

Senator McDonald's amendment was agreed to at 12:30, by a vote of 37 in the affirmative to 35 in the

Some unusual scenes were witnessed in the Senate during the night session. Two or three Senators, from excessive fatigue, or from some other cause, did not appear or act at all like themselves. One on the Democratic side of the chamber was afflicted with a strange forgetfulness, the fact that an amendment he had proposed had been voted on and defeated seem entirely to have escaped his

memory.

Another Senator who took a prominent part in the debate was troubled with a provoking impediment in his speech.

This unfortunate indisposition of Senators inter-

This unfortunate indisposition of Senators interfered seriously with the proper transaction of business, and prolonged the session several hours.

Mr. Cameron, of Wisconsin, next moved to amend the bill by making the weight of the proposed silver dollar 420 grains instead of 412½, and read a written speech in support of this change. The logic of his speech, if followed out, would require him to vote against the bill if it provides for a dollar lighter than the trade dollar.

AT 1:30 A. M. AT 1:30 A. M.

1:30 a. m:-At this hour the Senate is still in session, and is discussing the question of the weight of the proposed silver dollar. No adjournment will take place until a final vote on the bill is reached, but at what hour that will take place, it is now impossible to say when the vote is taken, the bill will probably be passed substantially as reported from the Committee on Finance, with the addition of the amendment, also proposed by the Committee, providing for a conference with the Latin Union States.

A REPORT CURRENT THAT HE HAS BEEN CORRUPTLY RETAINED BY THE UNION PACIFIC-NO TRUTH

Washington, Feb. 15.—An intimation has been published that the Hon. James F. Wilson, Chairman of the Board of Government Directors of the Union Pacific Railway Company, has been in some way corruptly retained by that company, and improperly paid a fee for his services. No one who knows Mr. Wilson will give such a report a moment's consideration. All the circumstances under which Mr. Wilson was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad Company are fully set forth in the last report of the Beard of Government, directed to the Secretary of the Interior, and that report has been published by order of the Senate. growing out of some of the transactions of its earlier history, the board gave a summary of the important suits now pending rament has a pecuniary interest in these suits, as the decision of them will involve the five suits, as the decision of them will involve the five per cent amount. The Board of Directors concluded with the following remark: "In the three forego-ing cases, one of the undersigned (Mr. Wilson) is retained by the company as special counsel." Thus if will be seen, not only that Mr. Wilson did not seek to conceal his employment by the Union Pa-cific Railroad Company, but that the interests of the company and the Government in the favorable issue of these suits are identical,

BAYARD TAYLOR MINISTER TO GERMANY-JUDGE BLATCHFORD PROMOTED TO A CIRCUIT-THE INY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15 .- The batch of nominaions sent to the Senate late this afternoon by the President gives about as general satisfaction, so made by the present Administration. The selection of Mr. Bayard Taylor to be Min-ister to Germany is one that has been talked months, and has never been mentioned except to be tone and manner that he felt deeply the importance of the step he was taking, and was not unmindful of approved. The almost universal comments on the and three civil engineers, who shall survey a route and and three civil engineers, who shall survey a route and another civil engineers, who shall survey a route and another civil engineers, who shall survey a route and another civil engineers, who shall survey a route and another civil engineers, who shall survey a route and another civil engineers, who shall survey a route and approved. The almost universal comments on the approved around the approve try and the Administration, and the world of cholarship and letters receives a complement which will be everywhere appreciated.

The Administration is also believed to have escaped from an embarrassing position in regard to the Belgian mussion by the nomination of Mr. Goodoe. Friends of the President and Secretary Evarts loe. Friends of the President and Secretary Evarts have been almost trembling for the past few months through fear that Mr. Henry S. Sanford's name might again be sent to the Senate as the Administration's candidate for the place. Indeed, it has been more than once reported, on what seemed to be competent authority, that the President would be persuaded to repeat this blunder; but better counsels prevailed.

The nomination of Judge Blatchford will be more intelligently commented on in New York than here

counsels prevailed.

The nomination of Judge Blatchford will be more intelligently commented on in New-York than here. None of the New-York members of Congress have yet been heard to express an opinion upon it, but a prominent New-Yorker in private life said this evening that the appointment would generally be considered good, and that it certainly had the merit of being a promotion.

The following nominations were also sent in today: Jehn Baker, of Illinois, to be Minister to Venezuela; William A. Howard, of Michigan, Governor of Dakota, and Benjamin F. Simpson, of Kansas, Marshal for that State.

An Associated Press report says: ' Louisiana Returning Board prosecutions were not even alluded to in the Cabinet meeting to-day. The session was devoted to the consideration of important appointments, which were determined on, and the nomin subsequently sent to the Senate, including Bayard Taylor, of Pennsylvania, as Minister to Germany; Wm. C. lor, of Pennsylvania, as Minister to Germany; Wm. C. Goodloe, of Kentucky, as Minister to Belgium, and Jehu Baker, of Illinois, as Minister resident to Venezuela. Pennsylvania has two of the most important missions, England and Germany. Samuel Elatchford is nominated as United States Circuit Court Judge for the Second Circuit, embracing Vermont, Connecticat and the northern, eastern and southern districts of Now-York, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Johnson. Judge Blatchford is now United States District Judge for the Southern District of New-York. He has declined the appointment for some time, but on reconsideration, a letter of acceptance was received from him to-day. The Hon. William A. Howard, of Michigan, succeeds J. L. Pennington as Governor of Dakota, the commission of the latter having expired."

THE HON. WILLIAM A. HOWARD.

The Hon. William A. Howard, who was nominated yesterday as Governor of Dakota Territory, as born in Vermont. He was graduated from Middle bury College in 1839, and in 1854, after taking up his residence in Michigan, was elected to the XXXIVth Congress, and was reflected in 1856. While in Congress he was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means. Having contested the seat of G. B. Cooper in 1860, he Having contested the seat of G. B. Cooper in 1860, he became a member of the XXXVIII Congress, and served on the Select Committee of Thirty-three. In 1861 he was appointed postmaster at Detroit by President Lincoin. In 1866 he was a delegate to the Lygalist' Convention, which met at Philadelphia. He was appointed Minister to China in 1869, but declined the position. The present Governor of Dakota is John L. Pennington. THE HON. JEHU BAKER.

The Hon. Jehu Baker, who was nominated as Minister Resident to Venezuela yesterday, is a native of Kentucky and a resident of Illinois. He was born in Fayette County, Ky., November 4,1822, and, after receiving a good education, studied law and adopted it as a profession. In 1864 he was elected to the XXXIXth Congress from the XIIth Illinois District as a Republican and two years later was elected to the XLth Congress.
During his first term he served on the Committee on
Private Land Claims and the Special Committee on the
Civil Service, and as Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department. In the XLth
Congress he served on the Committee on Education and
Labor and Freedmen's Affairs.

111, December 7, 1877, from this office, consisting of Major-General W. S. Hancock, United States Army; Colonel D. S. Stanley, 22d Lulantry, and Colonel W. D. Whipple, Ald-de-Camp, having been approved by the President, the following extract therefrom is published for the information of the army:

for the information of the army:

The board proceeded to the consideration of the questions submitted to it, viz.:

First—"What shall be considered as being a 'battle,' within the spirit of the regulations!" Answer—Battles are important engagements between independent armies in their own theatres of war, in contradistinction to conflicts in which but a small portion of the opposing forces are actually engaged, the latter being called, according to their nature, "affairs," "combate," "skircording to their nature, "affsirs," combate," "skir-mishes,"etc. A battle has for its object the determination of important questions of policy or strategy. An engagement may be partial and yet, if it tends to these ends, it is also entitled to the diguity of being termed a

ends, it is also entitled to the dignity of being termed a battle.

Second—"What portion of a regiment must be engaged in a battle to entitle the regiment to have inscribed upon its colors and upon the army register the name of the battle?" Answer.—That number of companies which, by tactics and regulation, is centiled as a battalion, habitually to carry the colors of the regiment. Regulations indicate what may be inscribed upon the guidons of batteries of artillery. (If the battles which regiments are entitled to place on their colors are also borne on the army register, it would seem that batteries having guidons are entitled to bear the names placed on the army register with the letter of each battery. This would not include honors to which the regiment is entitled, but honors won separately by detached batteries. Now that the legal designation of every company of artillery is a "battery," which was not the case when the regulations of 1863 in question were issued, it would seem proper that it should be determined whether all bateries of artillery, serving as infantry or field, or horse artillery, are now entitled to carry guidons and to embiazion the names of battles on them, or whether the rule refers to mounted batteries only, or to what batteries.)

Third—What record should be made in the cases of

Third—What record should be made in the cases of regiments consolidated as in 1815 and 1869? Answer—When regiments are consolidated which are entitled to honors by the rule laid down for regiments, the new organization is entitled to the combined honors of the battalions consolidated, but wen a battalion which had no existence during the war, or had not a sufficient number of companies to entitle it to bear the colors, subsequently became a regiment and then was consolidated, it carries with it no honors.

TWO SPEECHES TO COLORED MEN. PREDERICK DOUGLASS AND PRESIDENT HAYES AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY.

IGENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.1 Washington, Feb. 15 .- On the occasion of the presentation of a steel engraving of the picture of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation to the Howard University yesterday, Frederick Doug-

lass made a speech, in which he said: lass made a speech, in which he said:

Among the faults of my people are their self-indulgence, love of ease, and improvidence. They must learn
to stend their earnings judiciously. If one can't get
up, he will be helped down. They have a fair chance to
get up. They are on the way to Congress, and if the
negro can stand Congress, Congress ought to stand the
negro. The colored men have been forced up by abnormal conditions, but they are coming up gradually by

President Hayes made a speech in which he said:

I quite agree with all that has been said, yet it occurred
to me that Mr. Douclass made a moderate estimate of
his race when he said: "Tray one's build my; they don't
build the domes which you see," but who did build
them? Such men as Adams and Summer made their
fame by their speeches under that dome, and the
speech your colored brother has made us is better
than making domes; but that is not my message
I would say. The wisdom, the righteousness and the
grandeur or Abraham Lincoln's act of emancipation no
man will deuy. That it has conferred infinite blessings
on our country, on both races and on the world, very
few question. This estimate of the act and of its resulfs will not be changed by the good conduct or the bad
conduct of either race; but it is said that the greathess
of the blessing conferred on the colored race depends on
their conduct. What they most need is what Burns calls
"the giorious privilege of being independent." Weat
this requires is the willingness to labor, and the pru-President Hayes made a speech in which he said:

This speech was enthusiastically received.

AMERICAN MEDALS TO BRITISH SEAMEN. Washington, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878.

Consul Fairchild, of Liverpool, reports to the Department of State the creumstances attending the presentation of the medals and certificate of the Rumane Society of Massachusetts to the magter and five seamen of the British bark Thomas Brocklebark, in rec scamen of the British and Alboha the crew of the American schooner Louisa A. Sweet at sea in August last. The

The bill introduced in the Senate yesterday by Mr. Grover, authorizing the survey of a water route from the Atlantic to the Pacific, provides that the Secreof in official and unofficial circles for many tary of War shall appoint two commissions, each to con sist of three officers of the engineer corps of the army

For later details of Silver Debate, see Tenth page.

THE CHICAGO LAND CASES DECIDED.

THE AWARDS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GEN-Washington, Feb. 16.—The following is the

vilabus of the action taken and promelgated to-day by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in regard to what are known as the Calcago cases, involving sever-al tracts of very valuable property in and near that city: township 30, north rance 14, east of the third principal meridian in the State of Hilmois.—It is held in this case that the agent of the Secretary of War had not the power under the Act of 1819 to defleate public land, or dispose of it in any way except as provided by law. The meaning of the law was judicially determined by Mr. Justee McLean in the case of the United States versus the Raltroad Bridge Company (6th McLean, 517), and also by Attorney-General Batler on the 6th of May, 1836; (Opinion of Attorney-General, 198.) The land is unoccupied and unappropriated public land within the meaning of the set of April 5, 1862, authorizing the Issue of the Valentine scrip. A patent must accordingly issue. Six days are allowed in which to appeal to the Henorable Secretary of the Interior. The Commissioner has decided the "Wolf Lake Case."

The Commissioner has decided the "Wolf Lake Case," involving nearly 1,300 acres of land in township 37, north range 15. East Illinois. This land is a short dis tance from Chicago, and constituted the bed of a navigable lake when the township was surveyed in 1834Natural or artificial causes have led to a recession of
waters. The land was surveyed in 1874, and
upon claims for it decision has just been rendered.
The land has been awarded to certain of the precuption and homestead claimants.

In the matter of the application of George T. Blanchard to locate Valentine Scrip upon 11°100 acres of
land cast of adjoining section 15, township 39,
north of range 14, east of the third plincipal meridian in the State of Illinois. The land in
question is merely an accretion to section afficen, which
was granted to the State in 1827, for the purpose of alding in the construction of a canal connecting the Illinois.
River with Lake Michigan. The land is owned by the
state or those holding under it. A patent cannot issue
to the claimant.

In the matter of the application of Alexander T. Britton, Horace J. Gray, and Wills Drummond to locate
Valentine Scrip upon 2647₁₀₀ acres of land lying cast and
adjoining section 10, township 39, north range 14, east
of the third principal meridian in the State of Illinois, it
is decreed that a patent may issue to the applicants for
the same.

In the matter of the application of David W. Kean to re-

In the matter of the application of David W. Kean to re-

HEAVY LUMBER PAILURE REPORTED.

RUMOR IN OTTAWA THAT A LARGE NEW-YORK FIRM HAS FAILED. OTTAWA, Feb. 15 .- The reported failure of Adams & Co., of New-York, is unwelcome news to several Chaudiere lumbermen, whose names are on their

The above dispatch was received too late to verify it, and it is published without indorsement, and

with the hope that it may be found to be untrue. The firm of R. W. Adams & Co. ranks among the heav test lumber dealers in New York. Their office is at No. WHAT CONSTITUTES A BATTLE.

THE REPORT OF GENERAL HANCOCK'S COURT ON THE SUBJECT.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The proceedings of the board of officors, convened by General Order No. 112 Wall-st., and the lumber yards are in

ENGLAND WARNS RUSSIA.

THE CRISIS BECOMING MORE SERIOUS. ORD DERBY TRIES TO DISSUADE THE CZAR PROM OCCUPYING CONSTANTINOPLE-BRITISH WAR VESSELS ABOUT TO ENTER THE BOSPHORUS.

The danger of war between England and Russia is increasing hourly. Lord Derby has sought to dissuade Russia from occupying Constantinople, and has told her that any attempt to seize Gallipoli, or menace the communications of the British fleet, might lead to serious consequences. This intimation appears to have been disregarded by Russia, as on Friday her troops had occupied part of the Constantinople line of defences. Russia has asked Germany to exercise her influence in favor of peace. Austria is not likely to take sides with England. Part of the British fleet was to enter the Bosphorus yesterday. Public excitement is increasing at St. Petersburg. It is probable that the Greek Army will reënter Thessaly and Epirus.

THE CONTEST FOR CONSTANTINOPLE. FOUR BRITISH IRONCLADS AT PRINCES' ISLANDS

TWO AT GALLIPOLL. CONSTANTINOPLE, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878. Vice-Admiral Hornby's flagship, the Alexandra, 12 guns and 9,492 tons, and the Téméraire, 8 guns and 8,412 tons; Sultan, 12 guns and 9,286 tons, and Achilles, 16 guns and 9,694 tons, arrived off the Princes' Islands at 8 o'clock this morning. The Agineourt, 17 guns and 10,627 tons, and Swiftsure, 14 guns and 6,660 tons, remain at Gallipoli. The Raleigh, 22 guns and 5,200 tons; Hotspur (iron

and 1,864 tons, are at Besika Bay. The British fleet is expected to enter the Bosphe rus to-morrow. One of the ships struck a sand

rain), 3 guns and 4,010 tons, and Ruby, 12 guns

bank, sustaining slight damage.

Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador, has telegraphed to Lord Derby that the Sultan has received a dispatch from the Czar, stating that his troops would occupy the neighborhood of Constantinople in a friendly spirit, and with the same object —namely, for the protection of his subjects—as the British fleet was sent.

THE SULTAN TO REMAIN IN TOWN.

The report that the Cabinet had decided upon the departure of the Sultan for Broussa, in Anatolia, fifty-seven miles from Constantinople, in the event of the Russians entering the capital, is untrue. The Sultan will remain in Constantinople in any event. THE TREATY OF PARIS VIOLATED.

St. Petersbung, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878. ewspapers point out that the British fleet has entered the Dardanelles in spite of the Sultan's protest, and is, consequently, violating the Treaty of

Datdanelles." The Times hopes that Russia will admit the force of Lord Derby's protest, and will not, from perfectly sentimental motives, order the Russian troops to take up a menacing position, which, it says, is wholly unnecessary for the protection of

their real interests.

The Daily News (Liberal and Anti-Turkish), in its leading editorial article this morning, says:

The Manchester Guardian's London correspondent, in a dispatch to that journal, says;

The Manchester Guardian's London correspondent, in a dispatch to that journal, says:

Expectation of a pacific settlement of the Eastern question diminishes day by day. Austria and Engandare rapidly coming to an understanding, and an actual alliance may only be a quoestion of a few hours. How England can operate with Austria is not easy to describe. The Russian advance upon Constantinople and the Bosphorus would only be another proof of her intention to keep our feet out of the Black Sea, and if once it was in those waters it would be a pressing question whence the ships could draw supplies if Russia possessed command of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. Some of these difficulties would disappear were we sure that the Turks would resist the Russian advance upon the forts of the Bosphorus, and that Suleiman Pasha would oppose the Russian march upon Gallipeli. It is regarded exceedingly probable that the Porte has left the door open for retreat from the grasp of her for, and that yet at the eleventh hour Turkey may refuse to hand over its fleet to Russia, and throw herself on the protection of England. There is every indication that before forty-eight hours have clapsed we may hear of terrible confusion at Constantinople, and that the capture of the waterway to the Black Sea, and the maintenance of communications with our fleet will constitute some of the most exciting incidents of the situation. But British action in this matter depends upon Austria, and the course of events can only leave her a few hours to decide. It is obvious, also, that anich will depend upon the conduct of Suleiman Pasha. Practically, he holds the Dardanelles. His force is quite strong enough to defend the lines of Boulair, and the safety of the British fleet very largely depends upon his dolog zo. The conduct of Roumania is another important factor. Russia has acted more infamously toward her finan toward any otner power. Not only is Roumania Riely to withdraw from the Russian alliance, but it is not upprobable that she may turn her swor

The foregoing may exaggerate the state of affairs, but it indicates what is in meu's minds here.

PRINCE BISMARCK TO EXPLAIN.

LONDON, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878. The Pall Mall Gazette prints a Berlin diseatch saying: "Prince Bismarck is reported to be prepared to give a full and clear explanation of his Eastern policy, in answer to the question about to be put in Par-liament. The Emperor is understood to be prepared, in case of need, to tender his good offices to England and Russia with a view to the preservation of peace, but he is not inclined to act in any way as an arbitrator between

THE ATTITUDE OF AUSTRIA. VIENNA, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878. The New Free Press says it is reported that

the Austrian Minister of Finance will proceed to London on a special mission. LONDON, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878.

A dispatch from Vienna to The Times says: "It is quite possible that the Czar will succeed in concluding negotiations with Turkey before the Conference meets, thus creating the desired fait accompli [actual settlethus creating the desired fait accompil (actual settlement.) But after the declarations of the British and Austrian Governments, he can scarcely expect that such fait accompil will be unconditionally recognized. As regards this Government, it has not omitted in its confidential communications to St. Petersburg, to point out the clauses in the preliminary stipulations sigged at Adrianople, which affect European and Austrian interests in the matter, of which accomplished facts could scarcely be recognized. No written notes have been exchanged on the subject, but for all that, the Russian Government

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1878.-WITH SUPPLEMENT. is fully aware how far such faits accompli effected by a treaty with Turkey are likely to be recognized by this country."

THE HELLENIC WAR TO BE RENEWED. LONDON, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878.

Advices from Athens received yesterday by Greek merchants in London, announce that in conse-quence of recent massacres in the Greek Provinces of Turkey, and the entry of the British fleet into the Dar-danelles, the Greek Government feel themselves justidancies, the Greek Government feel themselves Justified in reoccupying Thessaiy and Epirus. General
Grivas is to take command of the forces in Western
Greece, and Colonel Coroneos is to command the Cretan
insurgents. Tenthousand men of the garde mobile are
under arms at Athens.

A Reuter dispatch from Athens says; "Information
from Crete states that the General Assembly has renewed its declaration of the annexation of the Island to
Greece. The insurgents have come to Vantos to attack

THE RUSSIANS BECOMING EXCITED. St. Petersburg, Friday, Feb. 15, 1878.

There is great anxiety here, particularly among the English residents, on account of the critical situation. Russian national feeling is becoming ex-

UNFOUNDED WAR RUMORS.

Rumors were circulated down town yesterday that all of the English steamships had been recalled by the British Government for war service. There was considerable excitement until the rumors were pronounced unfounded and absurd. One of these rumors was to the effect that the Inmau Line steamship City of Montreal sailed without carrying the usual British mails or any passengers, and upon her arrival at Queenstown was to be equipped for war service. The steamer did not carry any passengers, but took the mails and an unusually large cargo of freight, having every foot of space occupied. by the British Government for war service. There was

THE BRITISH SQUADRON. DESCRIPTION OF THE SIX IRONCLADS IN THE SEA OF MARMORA.

In view of the possibility that the British tronclads now in the Sea of Marmora may be called into action under conditions which will demonstrate their qualities, the following description of the six vessels of the squadron under Admiral Hornby will be found interesting: The Alexandra, Admiral Hernby's flagship, the largest

masted ironciad hitherto designed, is a central-battery ship in the best sense. She is the first broad-side ar-mored masted ship built with satisfactory all-round fire, for, out of twelve guns, four, including the heaviest, each broadside from four to six guns can be used, according to the bearing of the enemy. So far as the fighting portion of the vessel is concerned, she is a two-decker, unlike the six armored vessels of the Audacious class. The battery consists of two Woolwich rifle muzzle loading guns of twenty-five the former being a size not previously attempted to be carried on a broadside ship. To localize the effect of shells expleding between decks, the main deck battery is shells expleding between decks, the main deck battery is divided into two parts by an arrored bulkhead. The water line is protected by a belt of armor of a maximum thickness of twelve luches, and the armor forward is carried down over the ram to strengthen the latter, and to guard the vital parts of the ship from injury by a raking fire from ahead at times when waves or pitching may expose the bow The machinery, negazines, etc., are similarly protected against a raking fire from abait, by an armed bulkhead. The batteries are protected by armor only eight inches theck below, and six inches above, which is insufficient protection against guns now in common use on board armed vessels in European navies. In addition to the strength and safety due to numerous water-light cells between the two bottoms, great increased strength is gained by the employment of a heavy ionginadical bulkhead through the centre of the ship.

draft att. 27 feet; draft forward, 2642 feet; displacement, 8.412 tons; indicated horse power, 7.000; speed, 14 knots; weight of broadside fire, 2.600 pounds; weight of bow fire, 1.800 pounds; weight of stern fire, 600 pounds. The vessel cost £374,000. She is also litted for discharging Whitehead torpedoes beneath the water through a hole in the broadside.

The Flamingo is one of the sloops of modern date, of composite build, completed last year. She has a dis-placement of 774 tons; her length is 150 feet; breadth, 29 feet; draft forward, 11 feet; aft, 13 feet; indicated horse-power, 750. The cost of bull and machinery was \$100,380 in gold. She is fully rigged as a cruiser, and intended to use sail most of the time in going from port to port. The armament consists of two 64 and two 20 pounder rifles.

The Achilles is a vessel of the fifth class, with 42s-inch armor. Her tonuage is 9,137. She is armed with ten 12-ton and six 6½-ton guns. The Ruby is a comparatively—small fronclad of 1,864

tons. She carries ten 619-ton and two 12-ton guns. The Salamis is smaller still. Her tonnage is 985. She

PASSAGES OF THE DARDANELLES.

The passage of the Dardanelles by the

British Squadron under Admiral Hornby recalls other instances in which war vessels have sailed through the

trait in time of war, without serious damage. In 1770, lowed the peace of Nissa, the feat was accomplished by the Russian Squadron under Elphinstone, an English commander then in the Russian service, who destroyed the Turkish fleet in the Bay of Tchesme. The next pas-sage of the Dardanelles was made under conditions very different from those which now exist. In the eight wars between Russia and Turkey since the year 1709, Russia has had the alliance of England only once. This was in the short struggle of 1806-7, brought on by the intrigues of Napoleon for his own advantage. The brilliant advance of the Russian Army with which the war opened, was checked by the succes of the French arms in the west, for the Emperor Alex-ander could no longer maintain an efficient force on the Danube when Napoleon's victories threatened his in-terests elsewhere. England seized this occasion to aid Russia. An English army was sent to Egypt, and Admiral Duckworth with the British fleet passed through the Dardanelles. The Admiral, who had been cruising off Ferrol with four ships of the line, united with three others and four frigates stationed in Besika

Bay. Without serious injury to this formidable squadron, he sailed through the Strait. The good squadron, he satled through the Strait. The good fortune which attended the passage was in direct contrast to the humiliating circumstances which compelled a return. English valor was turned to nought by French diplomacy. General Sebastian was at Constantinople under orders from Napoleon to ineite and prolong the war. The appearance of the British fleet before the city and the ultimatum which the Admiral sent to the Sultan's Government created a panic. The sea batteries were unsrmed and the city was defenceless. Such was the rage of the Turks that the life of the French Ambassador was in danger, but his adroitness saved the Capital as well as his own head. He succeeded in inducing Admiral Duckworth to delay the execution of his threats for a few days. Meantime the batteries were armed, defences were hastily prepared in the city, and steps were taken to cut off the retreat of the English fleet. At length the Admiral discoverd the trap into which he had fallen, and with nothing to show for his gallant exploit but a score of the dipiomatic notes by which he had been beguiled, he withdrew. He succeeded in forcing again the passage of the Dardanelles, but the Turkish batteries were more effective than before, and he escaped only after serious loss.

FORGERY AND FLIGHT.

A YOUNG CLERK'S CRIME DISCOVERED. WILLIAM F. REILLY CASHES SEVERAL FORGED CHECKS AND LEAVES THE CITY-FLIGHT OF HIS YOUNGER BROTHER ALSO-BELIEF THAT THEY HAD AN ACCOMPLICE.

Forgeries amounting to \$16,590 on the Corn Exchange, the First National and the Chase Na-tional Banks, have been discovered. William F. Reilly, an employé of E. C. Litebfield, the Brooklyn real estate obtained the money on the checks and has fled from the city. His vounger brother has gone also. It is generally thought that they had an accomplice, who executed the forgeries.

HOW REILLY OBTAINED THE MONEY.

Rumors of defalcation and forgery were circulated again, in Wall-st., vesterday. It was reported that a defalcation had been discovered in the Corn Exchange Bank, in William-st. Inquiry at the bank elicited the information that the report had grown out of a forgery recently discovered on three banks, of which the Corn Exchange was one. There had been no defalcation nor misappropriation of funds by any one connected with the bank.

The alleged forgeries began on December 11, 1877, when a check for \$100, purporting to be signed by Edwin C. Litchfield, was presented at the Corn Exchange Bank by William F. Reilly, a young man in the employ of Mr. Litchfield. The check was cashed. On December 18, a similar check, for \$250, was cashed, and another, for the same amount, January 3. On January 30 Reilly presented a check for \$3,000, for which he represented a check for \$5,000, for which he received currency. Emboldened by these successes, Reilly appears to have resolved to make an effort for all that he could possibly obtain and then to fly. He provided himself with a check on the Corn Exchange Bank for \$9,990, another for \$2,000 on the First National Bank, and on for \$1,000 on the Chase National Bank All of these checks bore the date of February 2, and were presented and cashed on that day. These were the only banks at which Mr. Litchfield kept accounts, much the larger

The check on the First National Bank bore the name of Mr. Savage, Treasurer of the Brooklyn Improvement Company, of which Mr. Litchfield is president. Some objection was made to its payment without the name of Mr. Litchfield, and Reilly went away ostensibly to obtain his indorsement. In a short time he returned with Mr. Litchfield's name on the back of the check, and it was cashed. The checks on the Corn Exchange and the Chase National Bank were made against Mr. Litch field's private accounts, the blanks used in nearly every case having been taken from his check book, and bearing his name printed on one end. That on the Chase Na-tional Bank was made to the order of William Reilly, and was signed, "Edwin C. Litchfield." This name was re-peated on the back of the check in the same hand, under peated on the back of the check in the same hand, under that of William F. Reilly, the latter being written in bold, round characters. The imitations of Mr. Litebield's signatures were remarkably well executed, and it was admitted yesterday that they might deceive the most

ENGLAND DRIFTING INTO WAR.

STRONG LANGUAGE UND THE BERISH FOREIGN

MINISTER—WAR INTEGET.

LOFT DEBY'S profest arrainst Reason occuration of Constantineole is published. It is very decided by worlded. It demonstrates that the curry of the Russian troops would be a victation of the armistic, and might provide desorders, causing the very damper to the Christians which the Russian Government depressed to the Christians which the Russian Government depressed to Count September 1. But the Constantineous of the constantineous of the constantineous of the constantineous of the Christians which the Russian Government depressed to the Christians which the Russian Government of the Christians which the Russian Government depressed to the Christians which the Russian Government of the Christians which the Russian Government depressed to the Christian Christian Government depressed to the Christian Christian Government of the Christian Christian Christian Chris Notwithstanding the fact that Reilly did not return to

comfortable but unpretentious manner. He is nearly seventy years old, and his tair and beard are snowy

seventy years old, and his hair and beard are snowy white. He is overcome with graef on account of the chargesharainst his sons. As he spoke of them has hight he paced the thoor nervously, and at times bowed his head on his hands to hide his tears. He said:

"The first intimation I had of this affair was about a week ago, when Mr. Litchfield sent for me and told me. This charge of crime against my sons nearly paralyzed me. For over twenty years I had been in the employ of Mr. Litchfield, and I could not bear the thought that in my old age my name should be dishonored by my own flesh and blood. I could not believe that Willie was the guilty party. He never had any money, and when occasionally he would want a little extra spending money, he would borrow from his mother, and he now owes her \$11, recently borrowed. I told Mr. Litchfield that I had not seen sitter of the boys since the latter part of January, he would want a little extra spending money, he would be row from his mother, and he now owes her S11, recently borrowed. I told Mr. Litchfield that i had not seen either of the boys since the latter part of January, when they visited us and promised to call again on Sanday, February 3. They did not come. William went to California a year ago to visit some relatives. He returned four months ago, and because I remonstrated with him for staying out too late at night, he left home and engaged board with a family on Carroll-place, hear Fritchave, Brooklyn. At this boarding-house he fell in with associates who did him no good, and if he has become a criminal, many of his eyil native were contracted there. In January Edward left home and went to live with his brother, and I only saw them occasionally after that time.

there. In January palward test where make an action with his brother, and I only saw them occasionally after to the time of the control of th

A VINDICATION OF J. Q. SMITH.

A SENATE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY AGREES TO

HIS CONFIRMATION.

1BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, Feb. 16.-The Senate Committee on Commerce has unanimously agreed to report favorably the nomination of Mr. John Q. Smith to be Consul General to Canada; and he will undoubtedly be promptly confirmed by the Senate. The favorable action of the committee in view of the severe cr. ticisms made upon Mr. Smith's administration of the Indian Bureau by the Beard of Inquiry, whose report was before the committee, proves beyond question the estimate which the committee places upon the conclusions of that board. It is in fact a complete vindication of Mr. Smith's personal and official character.

PROSECUTION FOR POISONING CANDY. Boston, Feb. 15 .- In the Superior Court this torenoon a criminal prosecution, at the instance of the Board of Health, was commenced against L. Herbert Chase, confectioner, of this city, for adulteration of candy, the indictment charging him with using chromate of lead, knowing it to be injurious to health.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—Farmer Boy won the 2:38 trot

at Crystal Park. Fastest time. 2:30.

RULLAND, Vt., Feb. 15.—J. H. Batchelder was released from Jall at Modlebury last evening, he having precured the necessary bail, \$5,000.

CINCINNATI. Feb. 15.—At Jeffersonville, Ind., the
dead body of Mrs. Sophia Brautley was discovered, partly
caten by rate. Mrs. Brautley had been living alone.

AUGUSTA, Me., Feb. 15.—In the Maine House of
Representatives to-day a bill was reported giving equal politleal rights irrespective of sex, and granting women the rights
to vote in municipal elections.